



Branch

Banter

APRIL 2021

THE HISTORY OF WOMEN THROUGH UNDERCLOTHING

WHEN: Tuesday, April 13 7:00 p.m. (link opens at 6:45 p.m.)

WHERE: Using Zoom (see link information below)

PROGRAM: Christine Cooper is a historian and manager of public programs at the York County History Center. Her goal is to ignite a desire to learn in those she interacts with, through engaging experiences. At this AAUW meeting, Christine will talk about some of her own work in understanding the history of women through their underclothing. Join an exciting presenter and come ready to see the world in a new way.

Margaret Kremer & Amber Seidel, Program Co-Vice Presidents

**** VOTE FOR BRANCH OFFICERS ****

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for officers for the year July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022:

Co-President: Nancy Buckley

Co-Membership VPs: Suzanne Robertson and Jean Quickel

Secretary: Donna Fulton

Assistant Treasurer: Bonnie Bluett

We are grateful to them for accepting this nomination.

Carol Little, Carol Anderson, & Joan Beekey, Nominating Committee

MEMBERSHIP – IT IS RENEWAL TIME!

Your current membership ends on June 30. This year, the only way to renew is to mail a check and the renewal form to Sandra Cooley. *[Renewal form is at end of this issue of the Banter.]*

Renew now to ensure you are included in the 2021-2022 Yearbook.

BANTER DEADLINE

April 25 is the deadline for articles for the May *Banter*.

FROM THE PODIUM

At last, Spring is here! Every year, we look forward to the fresh air, budding trees, and blooming flowers. How fortunate we are to live in an area of four seasons to deeply appreciate the transition from winter to spring. It is a time of anticipation, hope and renewal. The coming of spring brings important business for our Branch with elections, AAUW PA's Annual Meeting, and a national vote for altering requirements for AAUW membership.

Last month, the Nominating Committee announced the candidates for the 2021- 2022 year for our Branch. We will be voting for these officers at the April meeting. Look for more information regarding nominees in this *Banter*.

On Saturday, April 10, AAUW PA will be conducting the Annual Meeting from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Emails to register were sent to all members in March. This is an opportunity to hear how our voices and financial contributions are influencing AAUW's mission at the state level.

From April 7 to May 17, we will have the opportunity to vote on removing the education requirement currently in place for women to be members of AAUW. Information is available to you on the AAUW National's website. See Betty Hooker's article in this *Banter*.

Again, we can look forward to convening in open spaces to gather in friendship and conduct the business of the York Branch. Therefore, mark your calendars for May 11 for the Branch meeting which will take place at 4:00 p.m. outdoors. Please note the change in the time of the meeting. This will be the final meeting of the 2020-2021 year. As always, it will be a celebration with entertainment and the installation of new officers.

One last thought: Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 restrictions, the AAUW PA Summer Retreat will occur via Zoom (not in-person) on Saturday, July 24. The detailed agenda and registration details will be sent directly to all AAUW members in Pennsylvania via email beginning in May. Please save the date to "attend."

We look forward to "seeing" you at our April Branch meeting on Tuesday, April 13 at 6:45 p.m. via Zoom.

Rita Meisenhelder & Barbara Woodmansee, Co-Presidents

BOARD MEETING

The April 6 Board meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom (see link above). Rita will email the agenda a few days before and then lead the meeting, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Branch members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

AAUW FUND – NAMED GIFT HONOREES

In 2020, the York Branch and individual Branch members donated a total of \$16,410 to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund. This fund allows AAUW to rapidly respond to critical issues affecting women and girls and fuels research and advocacy work to pass fair pay laws and equity legislation. These donations have entitled the Branch to select members as Named Gift Honorees.

For contributing their time and talents for the benefit of the York Branch and AAUW, the Board has chosen Carol Anderson, Jan Barnes (in memory), Joan Beekey, Nancy Buckley, Arlene Dech (in memory), Kathleen DePorter, Martha Fleischer, Suzy Hershey, Marilyn Jennerjohn, Linda Rupert, and Nancy Spataro as Named Gift Honorees for 2020. Thanks to all the Branch members who donated to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE – SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING SUPPORT

Young women, juniors and seniors attending local high schools, will be the beneficiaries of our local scholarship program. These students qualify for the Dual Enrollment Program which enables high achievement students to earn college credits at York College and Penn State York while completing their high school requirements. The tuition involved makes participation impossible for some.

Without the income from our Spring Market Faire, we are reaching out to our former Market Faire attendees through a fundraising mailing. We are now requesting your participation in this major fundraising project. Please consider becoming a supporter of our scholarship program at one of the following levels. Names of our supporters will appear in the *Banter*. **[Form is at end of this issue of the *Banter*.]**

Nancy Buckley, Fundraising Committee Chair

PUBLIC POLICY

The May 18 Primary will elect judges, school boards and some municipal offices. The last day to REGISTER TO VOTE is MAY 3, 2021. The last day to REQUEST A MAIL-IN OR ABSENTEE BALLOT is MAY 11, 2021. If you voted by mail in 2020, you need to request to do so for this year.

There are also three questions on the ballot:

1. Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Article III, Section 9, addresses the governor's emergency powers, including requiring legislative approval to continue beyond 21 days.
2. Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Article IV, empowers the legislature to extend or terminate an emergency declaration by resolution.
3. Proposed Constitutional Amendment, Article I, prohibits denial or abridgement of rights on account of an individual's race or ethnicity.

Carol Heintzleman, Public Policy Chair

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE – FREE YCP LECTURE VIA ZOOM

Dr. Jean Baker, Professor Emerita at Goucher College, will present "*That Army of Foolish Women*": *The Women's Suffrage Movement and Its Opponents* on Thursday, April 8, 5-7 p.m., via Zoom from York College. To attend, go to www.ycp.edu/cultural-series, click on 'Special Events' and then 'Register Here.' You will receive an email confirmation.

SUNSHINE

If you know of an AAUW member who deserves a card due to illness, death in family, or thinking of you, please notify Linda Rupert.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO AAUW BYLAWS – MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT

Between April 7 and May 17, AAUW members will vote on a change to the Association Bylaws that would drop the educational requirement for membership. A “Statement from the AAUW Racial and Social Justice Working Group” summarizes the thinking behind this change:

As members of this working group, we are passionate about ensuring that AAUW become more diverse and inclusive. Eliminating the educational requirement for membership is an essential step toward that goal: If we are truly committed to advancing equity for all, we need to become more equitable ourselves. While the [education] requirement may have made sense early in our history, by today’s standards it is perceived as elitist, exclusionary and out of touch.

To remain relevant, every organization must evolve. It is essential that we send a loud and clear message that we welcome all who share our values and goals – regardless of whether or not they hold a college degree...

Members have questions about this change. According to the AAUW Website:

- ✓ Education will remain a focus of AAUW.
- ✓ The Board does not expect this change to attract a large influx of younger members, but it may attract members who are interested in organizations that focus on inclusion and diversity.
- ✓ Funders look for diverse organizations. Our educational requirement may discourage corporate support because it is deemed discriminatory.
- ✓ Many talented people want to work with us but have been denied membership because of the educational requirement. We cannot afford to turn people away.
- ✓ **It is essential that our membership criteria match our mission and values.**
- ✓ **AAUW must evolve to survive.**

For more information on the proposed change to the Association Bylaws, check the Membership section of AAUW’s website at www.aauw.org and also join us for a discussion at our Zoom Branch meeting on Tuesday, April 13 at 6:45 p.m.

Betty Hooker

DAYTIME BOOK GROUP

3rd Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. **via Zoom** Contact Linda Palmer
April 2: *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell Led by Gayle Brass

EVENING BOOK GROUP

3rd Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. Contact: Sue Zitnick

April 20: *Tightrope* by Nickolas Kristof. With stark poignancy and political dispassion, *Tightrope* addresses the crisis in working-class America while focusing on solutions to mend a half century of governmental failure.

Book for May: *Michelangelo: God's Architect* by William E. Wallace

Note: We are meeting in the afternoon at 1:00 p.m. for now and April is at Betty Hooker's home. Also, we are limiting attendance to 6 members so we can maintain social distancing. Please call Betty if you wish to attend. Plan on wearing a mask and bringing your own water/drink.

GAME NIGHT

Game Night will be held **via Zoom** on Sunday, April 11, at 6:00 p.m. Contact Karen Julian for information.

BRIDGE GROUP

Bridge Group is on hold. Contact Lois Kulp for information.

LUNCH A MONTH

Lunch A Month is on hold. Contact Sandra Cooley for information.

SUPPER CLUB

Supper Club is on hold. Contact Lois Kulp for information.

\$15 Minimum Wage: Who Needs It & Why Should I Care?

[Message from Anne Pehle, AAUW PA President, about Zoom webinar]

There is much talk and activity about raising the minimum wage--at the federal level and in Pennsylvania. It is often a discussion with many misperceptions and inaccuracies. We want to bring you the facts behind the minimum wage discussion and why it is important to the women of Pennsylvania that legislation is passed.

The minimum wage in Pennsylvania is the lowest allowable by federal law and has been \$7.25 for over 12 years. There is nowhere in Pennsylvania, or anywhere else in the country, where a single person can live on \$15,080 a year. Every state surrounding Pennsylvania has a higher minimum wage and more than 70% of PA voters are in favor of raising the minimum wage. So, why haven't voters been heard? Join AAUW Pennsylvania Public Policy Chair, Jacqui Rogers, for a webinar to explore why we aren't being heard and how this affects us all. Jacqui will share the latest economic data, the myths about minimum wage, and current legislation to make the minimum wage a livable wage in Pennsylvania.

[April 14 minimum wage webinar flyer.pdf](#)

Wednesday, April 14 7-8 pm Registration required at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V6qsH9uNT7yjTYsRkt8kfQ

Mission Statement

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Vision Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

Diversity Statement

AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.